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INFO RUCNCIS/CIS COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
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RHMFISS/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 MOSCOW 003297

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR EUR/RUS, FOR EEB/ESC/IEC GALLOGLY AND WRIGHT
EUR/CARC, SCA (GALLAGHER, SUMAR)
DOE FOR FREDRIKSEN, HEGBORG, EKIMOFF

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/13/2018
TAGS: [EPET](#) [ENRG](#) [ECON](#) [PREL](#) [RS](#)

----- SUMMARY -----

- 1.(C) TNK-BP Vice President for International Affairs Shawn McCormick told us November 7 that Russian shareholder German Khan has effectively taken over the company. ----- KHAN AND AAR TAKING OVER -----
- 2.(C) TNK-BP Vice President for International Affairs Shawn McCormick told us November 7 that AAR's months-long campaign to wrest operational control of the company from Khan is over.
- 3.(C) McCormick confirmed press rumors that former Norilsk Nickel head Denis Morozov has been chosen to replace CEO Robert Dudley, but stressed that Morozov is not interested in the job.
- 4.(C) According to McCormick, Russian shareholders Mikhail Fridman (Khan's Alfa partner) and Len Blavatnik (Amcit), are not interested in managing the company. ----- BP and the Barn Door -----
- 5.(C) McCormick noted that BP has assigned an experienced Russia-hand, David Peattie, as the new Group Vice President overseeing BP's interests in the company.
- 6.(C) However, McCormick said while these changes might have made a difference six months ago, they are too little too late to have an effect on the company's future.
- 7.(C) McCormick said the drive to reduce the foreign presence in TNK-BP was driven partly by the desire for control and partly to cut costs. ----- GOVERNMENT TAKEOVER? -----
- 8.(C) McCormick said Khan's control of the company might prove short-lived. Well-placed contacts of his inside the Russian government had told him that the Russian government is looking for a way to take over the company.
- 9.(C) xxxxxxxxxxxx However, if McCormick's sources are right, Khan and his partners will in turn be hoisted on their own petard as Rosneft and Gazprom move to take over the company.